

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Petra Perner
Serial No: 10/574,176
International Filing Date: 10/1/2004
Title: Methods for Automatically Identifying Microorganisms
Collected on a Carrier

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to the first office action, please amend the instant application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please substitute the attached amended paragraphs of pages 1 and 3-5 for the corresponding paragraphs of the literal translation filed concurrently.

Please add the attached Abstract of the Disclosure.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1 through 9 of the concurrently filed literal translation are cancelled.

Please add the attached new claims 10-18 to the specification.